

## Message Text

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 CAB-02 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00  
L-03 SY-05 PM-05 H-01 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 HA-05 /098 W  
-----001370 292023Z /14

R 290741Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0752  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EAIR, JA  
SUBJECT: JAPANESE STATEMENT ON HIJACKING: JAPANESE  
DECISION TO ASSIGN SECURITY OFFICERS ABROAD

1. LOCAL PRESS AUGUST 26 REPORTED NEW GOJ POLICY TO DEAL  
WITH FUTURE ACTS OF HIJACKING AND OTHER FORMS OF TERRORISM.  
MOFA'S FIRST CONSULAR DIVDIR IKEDA TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST 28  
THAT POLICY STATEMENT REFLECTED TOUGHER LINE BUT CHANGE  
WAS ONE OF NUANCE. ACCORDING TO IKEDA, UPON RETURN FROM  
BONN SUMMIT, FUKUDA DIRECTED MINISTRIES TO COME UP WITH  
REVISED POLICY WHICH WOULD INCORPORATE SPIRIT OF BONN  
ANTI-HIJACKING POLICY. INTER-MINISTERIAL GROUP, CHAIRED BY  
CABINET SECRETARY ABE AND COMPOSED OF MOFA, JUSTICE AND  
TRANSPORTATION REPRESENTATIVES, AGREED ON POLICY STATEMENT  
WHICH WAS APPROVED BY CABINET AUGUST 25. IKEDA SAID THIS  
STATEMENT DID NOT RULE OUT NEGOTIATING WITH HIJACKERS IF  
LIVES OF HOSTAGES AT STAKE, BUT DID MAKE JAPANESE POSITION  
FIRMER FOR DEALING WITH UNLAWFUL DEMANDS OF HIJACKERS.  
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2. COMMENTING ON NEWSPAPER REPORT THAT GOJ WOULD ASSIGN  
FIFTY POLICE AND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE (SDF) PERSONNEL TO  
JAPANESE DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ABROAD, IKEDA SAID THESE  
OFFICERS WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERALL SECURITY. THEY  
WOULD BE SECONDED TO MOFA (THEREBY AVOIDING LEGAL PROBLEMS  
IN ASSIGNING POLICE AND SDF PERSONNEL ABROAD), ALL WOULD

RECEIVE CRASH MOFA ORIENTATION TRAINING, AND SOME WOULD BE GIVEN LANGUAGE COURSE. THEY WOULD BE IN PLACE BY END OF DECEMBER 1978 WITH AN ADDITIONAL 10 ASSIGNED ABROAD BY MARCH 1979. MOFA HOPED TO INCREASE NUMBER OF SECURITY OFFICERS BY ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN A YEAR UNTIL MOST MAJOR EMBASSIES OR CONSULATES HAD AT LEAST ONE OR TWO.

3. TEXT OF GOJ BASIC POSITION ON HIJACKING FOLLOWS:

QUOTE. IN ORDER TO COMBAT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM SUCH AS HIJACKING, IT IS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT TO STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. IN THE STATEMENT ON THE HIJACKING OF AIRCRAFT, WHICH WAS ISSUED AT THE RECENT SUMMIT CONFERENCE OF MAJOR INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES IN BONN, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE SEVEN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING JAPAN, EXPRESSED THEIR DETERMINATION TO TAKE JOINT MEASURES AGAINST COUNTRIES WHICH REFUSE EXTRADITION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIJACKING ON AN INTERNATIONAL SCALE. THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, IN COOPERATION WITH THE OTHER GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, INTENDS TO MAKE SPEEDY PREPARATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE MEASURES WHICH ARE CONTAINED IN THE ABOVE STATEMENT AND ALSO TO STRONGLY URGE OTHER COUNTRIES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE MEASURES.

IN ORDER TO COMBAT TERRORISM SUCH AS HIJACKING, IT IS INDISPENSABLE TO ENSURE THAT THE PREVENTIVE MEASURES ARE THE MOST STRINGENT POSSIBLE. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE  
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GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE STRONG EFFORTS. SHOULD AN INCIDENT UNFORTUNATELY OCCUR, HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT WILL, AS A MATTER OF COURSE, MAKE THE MAXIMUM EFFORTS TO SECURE THE SAFETY OF HOSTAGES BY TAKING ALL POSSIBLE STEPS. AT THE SAME TIME, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, THE GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO BE FIRM IN DEALING WITH UNLAWFUL DEMANDS OF HIJACKERS, IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER.

THE GOVERNMENT ASKS FOR THE UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION OF THE PEOPLE ON THIS POLICY. UNQUOTE MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** JAPANESE STATEMENT ON HIJACKING: JAPANESE DECISION TO ASSIGN SECURITY OFFICERS ABROAD  
**TAGS:** EAIR, JA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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